



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 17, 2010

CONTACT:
Sue Walitsky 202-224-4524 or
202-320-0819

CARDIN RESPONSE TO WASH COG'S REPORT ON METRO

Washington, DC – U.S. Senator Benjamin L. Cardin (D-MD) released the following statement in response to the joint report on Metro released today by the Washington Council of Governments and the Greater Washington Board of Trade:

"The Greater Washington Board of Trade and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' WMATA Governance Review Task Force' make several commonsense recommendations to improve the management of Metro's operations. These recommendations complement the work my Senate colleagues and I are doing to strengthen transit safety laws to ensure the safe operation of Metro.

"As the Task Force points out, the governance structure for WMATA, which was established in 1966, was appropriate for building out and growing the system but has been less effective in maintaining and operating a reliable, efficient, and most importantly, safe transit system for the entire Washington Metropolitan region.

"Improving the governance structure to provide greater accountability among Metro leadership, establishing the right balance of representation on Metro's Board, having uniform compensation policies and criteria for determining qualifications for service on WMATA's board of directors among other recommendations will help improve the operations of Metro.

"I am an ardent supporter of Metro and am working hard to find Metro the resources it needs to provide consistently reliable and safe service for the Greater Washington area and I appreciate the work that the Metro Greater Washington Board of Trade and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments recognizes the importance of Metro to the region and is doing its part to ensure the vitality of this system's future."

###